

Mon 10/19/2015 5:06 PM
History Advocates historyadvocates@gmail.com
Additional HSS Framework Public Comments

Dear Dr. Adams,

It was a pleasure seeing you at the IQC meeting on Thursday, 10/8. We also appreciated the opportunity to be able to present our proposed comments to the Commission in the public comment section of the meeting.

Following up on our presentation, please see attached letter with explicit proposed revisions regarding modern history of Iran in the World History CA Curriculum, with reference to the following text on Page 546; lines 903-905 (as of 10/4/2015 version):

American foreign policy in the Middle East included CIA involvement in overthrowing the democratically elected but socialist-leaning government in Iran, and the tensions that would lead (much later) to the first and second Gulf Wars.

Best regards,

Esfandiar Imani
History Advocates

Why the new content is needed to be edited?

While we appreciate the inclusion of one of the most important event in Iran's modern history, we find two inadvertent, albeit serious, flaws with the referenced language in the Framework:

(1) the labeling of Dr. Mossadegh (the Prime Minister of the democratically elected government in 1953) as socialistic-leaning -- as other scholars, who have also eloquently argued in their proposed comment submittals to IQC, there is no historical fact, record, document nor scholarly work substantiating this characterization. By inclusion and inference of this label, the readers (who are most likely teachers and students) are led to assume this was the cause (and the justification) for the "CIA involvement" to prevent a "socialistic-leaning" government in Iran whose neighboring country happened to be Soviet Union (a communist government at the time), to remain in power.

(2) linking Iran in any context to Gulf Wars -- the first Gulf War (August 1990 – 28 February 1991), was a war waged by coalition forces from 34 nations led by the United States against Iraq in response to Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait; the second Gulf War involved the 2003 invasion of Iraq, deposing the Ba'athist government of Saddam Hussein, by a combined force of troops from the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and Poland.

Neither one of these wars involved Iran. By the inclusion and inference of this linkage, the readers are misled and left to draw false historic conclusions.

Original comments plus highlighted changes.

Current language in the revised Framework (as of 10/6/2015) plus proposed changes, with reference to **Page 546 -- lines 903-905**

American foreign policy in the Middle East included CIA involvement in overthrowing the democratically elected ~~but socialist-leaning~~ government in Iran, ~~and the tensions that would lead (much later) to the first and second Gulf Wars.~~